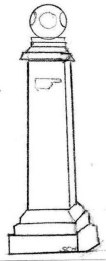


Telling Wiltonians where to go for over a year!

THE BLINKING LIGHT

NOW MORE ILLUMINATING
NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2017



A (modest) Feathered Proposal

Before anyone sits down to the ol' groaning Thanksgiving table, here's an idea that will keep the real meaning of the gathering uppermost. Have the little nippers cut out long ovals from brown paper bags (these will be the "feathers"). Ask the artiste in the family to draw and cut out a large outline of a no-tail turkey – also on brown paper. Tape it to the wall. Then – before anyone eats one single bite of Uncle Irv's Vegetable Surprise – each diner must write down what they are grateful for on a "feather" and tape it to the rump of the bird – so Tom will soon appear in full plumage and the celebration will have more significance than merely a reason to get stuffed and fall asleep during the football game. – Ed.

Calendar Quickies

Stop plucking the bird for a sec and scrawl these dates on the fridge. The events are designed to be fun, beautiful, and bring the Wilton community together.



November 1 – April 15th – Parking Ban
Thursday, November 16th – 3-4 pm – The Civil War: A Conversation
November 17th, 18th, 19th & December 15th, 16th, 17th – Riverview Mill Holiday Open Houses
Friday & Saturday, December 1st & 2nd – Holiday Fair at Pine Hill
Friday, December 1st – Festival of Trees
Friday, December 8th – Create Luminaria, Stroll Downtown, Caroling & Tree Lighting
Saturday, December 9th – Make Holiday Centerpieces
Thursday, December 13th – Jingle Mingle
Friday, December 14th -- Meet Elisabeth Berg and Hear Stories in the Rotunda
Sunday, December 17th -- Downtown Luminaria Display and "It's A Wonderful Life"
Thursday, December 21st – Solstice Spiral Lit in Main Street Park
Photos of Phabulous Town Events You May Have Missed
Our Shameless Plug Department item

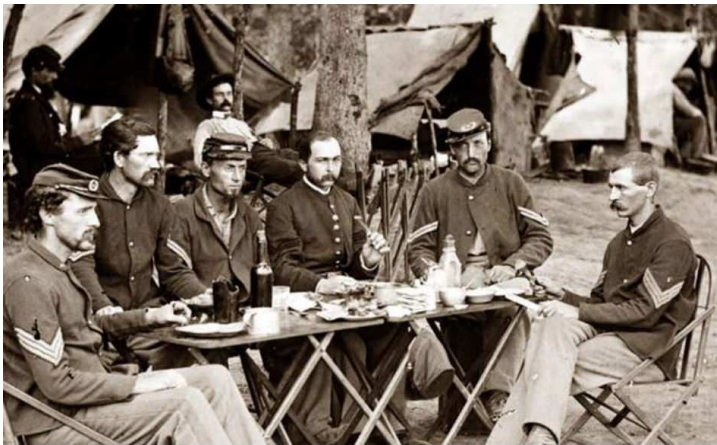
HOT OFF THE PRESSES! River Ecology Banner Contest Winners (Just) Announced

An all-star jury of five agency-involved Wiltonians have *just* announced the winners of the River Ecology banner art contest. These winners were selected for their designs of the six new light pole banners which will fly along the edge of the new Riverwalk Park. Congratulations and a swirl of the beret go to (in no particular order): Mary Graham for her painting of a waterfall through a rocky cliff; Gail Hoar for a majestic blue heron, a wetland view of a mountain, and a wintry river scene; Uli Newsted for River Zen II, a cairn on a log near a stream; and Melanie Chouinard for the photo of her "Blanding's Turtle Emerging" sculpture. Jay Jackson's entry of a Blue Heron in Flight was selected to be the sign design for Riverwalk Park. The jury was comprised of Jackie Kahle from the Economic Development team; Jeff Stone from the Conservation Commission; Michael Dell'Orto from the Historic Society; Deb Mortvedt from the Heritage Commission and Patsy Belt from the WMSA. Winning entries will be on exhibit at the Liberry soon.



A Word from Our Men in Blue

A Winter Parking Ban is in effect from November 1 to April 15th, between 12 am and 6 am. Vehicles found parked on any street in the town during these times are subject to being ticketed and possibly towed at the owner's expense. Don't park on any street during the times of the ban. If it snows, you'll louse it up for the road crew – who will be *thrilled* to be out there plowing in a blizzard at o'god o'clock *anyway*! If you have any questions concerning this ban, please contact the Wilton Police Department at 654-9452. Give 'em all a break and park off the street! (Ed)



The Civil War: A Conversation

Hurry! This just in! Open to everyone - On November 16th, at 3 pm at Edgewater Estates, Joe Broyles, a long-time Civil War buff, will talk about his passion. He has been interested in the strange and untold stories behind the events that changed the destiny of the *United States*. The story of how Joe became interested in the Civil War in the first place is a fascinating and eerie story in itself. Through his relaxed and informal conversational style, attendees will get a verbal tour beyond the well-known "history-book" headlines to discover the human

elements beneath them, and will learn some of the antics and foibles of several military leaders. Broyles will explore the compassion and humanity that underpinned some of the bloodiest battles and look into personal and political rivalries on both sides, especially odd events and unlikely friendships. To add an extra dimension to this afternoon's presentation, Sandy Lafleur and Joe Pollock will play authentic songs from the Civil War using an Appalachian dulcimer, guitar and mandolin to heighten various aspects of the conversation. Open to everyone! For further information, please contact Stasia Millett at 654-2186.

Holiday Open Houses at the Riverview Mill Artist Community

Copper and Wire Studio in the Riverview Mill complex is now open Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-6, with two Holiday Open house weekends November 17th, 18th, 19th and December 15th, 16th, 17th. When you come enjoy wine, light snacks, music, browse our sales and gifts for the upcoming Holidays and enter a free raffle to win a beautiful Flower Mandala!

Sussy-Rose Shields Jewelry Studio also in the Riverview Mill will provide some specials on 'Plaid Friday', Nov 24th if you wear *plaid* that day; or come by to shop on 'Shop Small Saturday', Nov 25 from 10am to 4pm. Available at Sussy's -- fine hand-crafted jewelry, gift certificates for classes, or a personal workshop for yourself -- make a special gift for someone special! Studio hours are Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10-4. Contact Sussy at 654-5310 or sussyrose@hotmail.com .

Ladybead and Rook, in the Riverview Mill is Wilton's gem of a bead shop, which will also be having its annual Small Shop Saturday Sale on November 25th. With storewide discounts you can save on all beads, findings and books. Stock up on quality beads and findings for all your seasonal crafting needs and creative desires without the stress of big box shops. For additional information come visit or contact Leslie Rook at 654-2805

Holiday Fair at Pine Hill

The annual Pine Hill Waldorf School Holiday Fair will be held on Friday, December 1 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 2, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free!

Friday evening is a special shopping event for adults. Browse and shop fine New England artisans' crafts for that unique Holiday gift. Meet up with friends and enjoy a relaxing stroll through the marketplace, savor a variety of delicious sweets and refreshments at the dessert café while talented musicians play to set the mood.

Saturday, the marketplace reopens to the whole family, and the children's events begin! There's a plethora of magical seasonal activities: puppet shows, and performances by the Flying Gravity Circus to delight the little nippers. They can also pick a small treasure from one of the many pockets of the popular Pocket Lady. And that aroma wafting throughout? Aha! That'll be the fair's signature homemade waffles! Yum! Who needs sugar plums when you can have one of those or a delicious luncheon or dessert for a modest fee. For more info, call 603-654-6003 or www.pinehill.org/Holidayfair



The Festival of Trees! - Luminaria! – Holiday Centerpieces! Jingle Mingle! -- Stories!

Also on December 1st Downtown Main Street merchants, in partnership with the WMSA, will have decorated over a dozen Holiday trees -- shimmer, snow, sparkles, bows, swags, color, ornaments of all kinds will brighten up the month of December in the Liberry Rotunda. Another great photo op for the scrapbook!

Don't be a Grinch in the darkness – come to the Wilton Public Liberry on Friday, December 8th and create your one-of-a-kind luminaria for next week. It's creativity and fun for all ages! Make this year special and shine your own light! Art supplies will be..... ah... supplied! Afterwards, join your neighbors and, to the caroling of little cherubs from the Tumbleweeds Day Care center, amble the streets, sampling goodies offered by the Downtown Main Street merchants! Wind up at the official tree lighting ceremony in the Park (around 6 pm) and join in!

For more craft activity to help ring in your Holiday, on Saturday, December 9th, Sandy Lafleur will once again bring her many design talents to bear on helping you make your *live* festival centerpiece (alas! this does not involve reindeer!) Reservations are a “must” as space is limited. To cover costs, a measly \$6 will be asked but the rewards of seeing and smelling your evergreen bedecked creation on the table will be well worth it! The snipping, gluing and sniffing will begin at 10 am.

There'll be a very merry Jingle Mingle on Wednesday Dec 13th from 2-5 pm at the Liberry with live music (alas no accordions this year) delicious nibbles, food and Holiday cheer (sorry no booze, either!) So grab your next door neighbor, or the folks down the street who you've been wanting to know and enjoy this daylight event! Then around 6 pm, snuggle back into one of the comfier chairs with a bowl of hot soup and listen to favorite Holiday stories read live from 6 pm to around 8 or so in the Rotunda. Ahhh! Talk about getting into a festive seasonal mood! BTW – Before you go home, you may want to sign up to reserve a seat for the Elizabeth Berg event the next day. Space is limited.....

Back at the Liberry in the Rotunda Thursday, December 14th at 7 pm meet and hear NY Times best-selling author, Elizabeth Berg, read from her trilogy of stories from her childhood growing up in a military family. Books will be on sale for the author to sign, and gift wrapping will be available for those who want to have the items ready for Holiday gifting. Call or stop in to the Liberry soon to reserve your seat.

Main Street Holiday Stroll and Solstice Spiral



And just when you think you've had all the Holiday merriment possible – here come two of the loveliest events in our Holiday calendar! The beautiful and serene Holiday Stroll down Main Street at dusk on Sunday December 17th lit with glowing handmade luminaria (can you find yours?). It'll be like a scene out of "It's A Wonderful Life" which coincidentally Dennis will be featuring at the Wilton Town Hall Theater.

And back by popular demand! The Wilton Community Center, WMSA and Local Share will lay out the Solstice Spiral in the Park -- a meditative walk to help keep folks focused on the quiet and beauty of the Season. The spiral lights up on the longest night of the year, December 21st and will remain lit (at night) until the end of the year. A Menorah will be featured in the center of the spiral so all who need light at this time can find it.

What You Just Missed

(Remember, if you don't show up at these events, we get to talk about you!)

The Wilton Peace Action Concert for Puerto Rico

WPA member, Jennifer Bernet writes: "The Wilton Peace Action benefit concert for Puerto Rico hosted by High Mowing School on November 5th was amazing! A wonderful musical program arranged by cellist/strings teacher Andrew Koutroubas, featuring Andrew, Eve Kodiak, Gene Faxon and other talented performers. Guests were treated to two very different styles of harp playing and a wonderful soprano soloist. A nice sum was raised for our fellow Americans in Puerto Rico living without basic services due to the terrible hurricane Maria. There was warm fellowship and snacks galore, anchored by warming butternut squash soup made by Christie of the Hilltop Café. Ric Zaenglein took gorgeous photographs and the High Mowing School gave their support through promotional posters, talented musicians and the use of the

auditorium.” Cheri Falk reminds those who would still like to contribute to make a check out to Limary Lorenzo and mail to Cheri Falk, Wilton Peace Action, 724 Isaac Frye Highway in Wilton 03086



On Haunted Wilton Day, Stone Riley tells stories in the Park.



An armload of ambulance “friends”



Demonstrating infant resuscitation



Delighted to be with the “big guys”



Performing the Heimlich Maneuver

And Last, From Our “Shameless Plug” Department

Your Legacy Carved in Stone



The Wilton Riverwalk associates are looking for more donors (businesses or individuals) of granite benches along our new Stony Brook walkway. *Tax deductible* donation \$350 (includes engraving). Interested? jenniferscottbeck@gmail.com



The Blinking Light “Staff” thanks all who lobbed an article over the wall so as to make this issue informative and enjoyable.

Stasia Millett –Editor – 654-2186